



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
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Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: NM111

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: State of New Mexico
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position: SE Quadrant of State
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☒ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Beef Cattle |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Dairy Cattle |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Swine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Poultry |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Small Ruminant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other _____ |

☐ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Beef Cattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Dairy Cattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Poultry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Small Ruminant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other : _____ |

☐ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Public Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Epidemiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: _____ |

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The objective for food animal veterinarians in Southeastern New Mexico is to service beef, dairy and sheep/goat operations. Southeastern NM has a heavy dairy farm concentration and is also home to cattle/calf and sheep operations. Many ranches and dairies are family owned and operated. The quadrant has four livestock markets. There are 6 large counties in this area covering 29,909 square miles. The average per capita income for these six counties is \$28, 140. There are approximately 505,000 cattle and sheep in this quadrant. The cash receipts for livestock in this area is \$966,976,000 (cattle/calves \$262,912,000 and milk \$683,213,000). Because of the dairy industry, cash receipts in Chaves County alone in 2008 were \$468,613,000 (milk and beef cattle). This area has 55 listed food animal veterinarians and currently some veterinarians come from out of state to help service the need. Because of the large concentration of dairy farms and cattle ranches this area, there will always be a need for more food animal veterinarians. A Type I Shortage Veterinarian would spend 80% of his /her time servicing herd health management, providing disease surveillance and performing regulatory duties.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

In order to fulfill the objectives of a food animal veterinarian in this area, he/she would be involved in herd management, basic health care, and disease surveillance for beef and dairy cattle and small ruminants, as well as performing the regulatory functions of a USDA Accredited Veterinarian, which include issuing certificates for interstate and international livestock movement, Brucellosis testing and vaccination, tuberculosis testing, development of disease management plans and cleaning/disinfection plans and the recognition of signs of foreign animal diseases, to name a few. Included in the time assessment is the mandatory recordkeeping associated with all of these tasks. Disease surveillance would include testing and monitoring for tuberculosis, Brucellosis, bovine trichomoniasis, bovine viral diarrhea, scrapie, pseudorabies and other livestock diseases of significance, as well as the diseases and other health issues affecting the equine population associated with food animal livestock.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

There have been attempts by the multiple State agencies to develop incentives for livestock practitioners. An agreement with Kansas State Univ. to admit qualified NM students from agricultural backgrounds has stalled due to lack of funding. The burden of supplying more livestock practitioners to the area continues to fall on the shoulders of existing practitioners, who find it challenging to attract veterinarians away from the higher salaries and perceived better quality of life that the metropolitan areas provide. Financial incentives are vital in any efforts to attract veterinarian practitioners to these rural areas.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

New Mexico's livestock industry has a long history steeped in family tradition. Many of the cattle/calf ranches and dairies are family owned and operated; however, NM is also known for having some of the largest corporate dairies in the nation. The state's economy benefits a great deal from the revenue generated by the livestock industry and many New Mexicans are employed by ranches and dairies. New Mexico is the nation's fifth-largest state and ranks 8th nationally in milk production. Milk is the state's #1 cash commodity at \$1.36 billion and cattle/calves second at \$999 million. The situation for the existing food animal veterinarians across the state is one of very long hours trying to service a large number of livestock over hundreds of square miles. Not only does this put a strain on the veterinarians and their families but also does a disservice to the livestock producers and compromises efforts by regulatory agencies to deal with the animal diseases that can affect both animal and public health. Proper disease surveillance is at risk because there are not enough veterinarians in the area to service the food animal industry need. The existing veterinary force for this area is doing an excellent job with the resources they have, but they are stretched too thin. More veterinarians are crucial to keep our food animals healthy and ensuring the safety of our food supply.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Dave E. Fly, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: New Mexico Livestock Board

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Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.